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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/078,709

02/21/2002

Kenji Nishinakagawa

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11/17/2005

BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH

PO BOX 747

FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

TRAN, TUAN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2682

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/078,709

Applicant(s)

NISHINAKAGAWA, KENJI

Examiner

Tuan A. Tran

Art Unit

2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Futamara et al. (6,535,499) in view of Gardenfors et al. (6,633,550).

Regarding claim 1, Futamara discloses a transmitter-receiver circuit (See fig. 8) comprising: a band pass filter 75b which extracts a desired frequency component from a receiving signal; a controllable filter 79 which removes an unnecessary frequency component from a transmitting signal; a digital circuit 83b, provided in association with the band pass filter 75b, for generating a frequency adjustment signal so as to adjust band pass characteristics of the band pass filter 75b; first adjustment means, provided in the band pass filter 75b for adjusting the band pass characteristics of the band pass filter 75b; a demodulation 76 for analog-demodulating a signal fed from the band pass filter 75b; and second adjustment means for adjusting frequency of the controllable filter 79, wherein the first adjustment means adjusts the band pass characteristics in response to the frequency adjustment signal and the frequency adjustment signal fed from the digital circuit 83b is shared for adjustment of the band pass characteristics and adjustment of a signal in the demodulation circuit by the first adjustment means, and

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adjustment of frequency by the second adjustment means (See figs. 1, 8 and col.1 line 61 to col. 3 line 50, col. 12 lines 44-64). However, Futamara does not mention that the controllable filter 79 is a low pass filter wherein its cut-off frequency is adjusted by the second adjustment means and the low pass filter is provided in a chip in which the band pass filter is provided. Gardenfors teaches a transceiver circuit (See fig. 4) comprising: a band pass filter 120 which extracts a desired frequency component from a receiving signal; and a low pass filter 124 which removes an unnecessary frequency component from a transmitting signal, wherein the low pass filter is provided in a chip in which the band pass filter is provided (See fig. 4 and col. 1 lines 43-55, col. 6 lines 17-47).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the teaching of Gardenfors in reconfiguring the transceiver as disclosed by Futamara with a controllable low pass filter wherein its cut-off frequency is adjusted by the second adjustment means and the low pass filter is provided in a chip in which the band pass filter is provided for the advantage of enhancing the signal quality as well as reducing the overall size of the transmitter-receiver circuit.

Regarding claim 2, Futamara & Gardenfors disclose as cited in claim 1.

Gardenfors further discloses a radio frequency signal transmitted and received is in a 2.4 GHz and is a signal, which uses a spread spectrum technology by frequency spreading (See col. 2 lines 17-65).

2. Claims 3-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Futamara et al. (6,535,499) in view of Gardenfors et al. (6,633,550) as applied to claims 1 above, and further in view of Saito (6,490,441) and Ichihara (6,466,270).

Regarding claims 3-9, Futamara & Gardenfors discloses as cited in claim 1.

Gardenfors further discloses a radio frequency signal transmitted and received is in a 2.4 GHz and is a signal, which uses a spread spectrum technology by frequency spreading (See col. 2 lines 17-65). However, they do not disclose the first adjustment means of the band pass filter (variable filter) and the second adjustment means of the low pass filter (variable low pass filter) comprises: a plurality of impedance elements having equivalent functions, wherein the impedance elements are resistances connected in series between an input and an output terminals or capacitors connected in parallel between an input and output terminals; and switching elements which are switched under control of the frequency adjustment signal (filter controller's signal) so as to selectively operate the impedance elements, wherein the switching elements short or open terminals of the respective resistors or connected in series with the respective capacitors so as to connect or disconnect the respective capacitors between the input and output terminals. Saito teaches a structure of a variable band pass filter used in a transceiver circuit (See fig. 6) wherein the variable band pass filter comprises: a plurality of impedance elements having equivalent functions, wherein the impedance elements, are variable capacitors connected in parallel between an input and output terminals, inherently includes a switching elements, which are switched under control of the frequency adjustment signal (filter controller's signal) so as to selectively operate the

impedance elements, are connected in series with the respective capacitors so as to connect or disconnect the respective capacitors between the input and output terminals (See fig. 6 and col. 5 lines 1-53). Ichihara teaches a structure of a variable low pass filter 23 (See fig. 2) comprising: a plurality of impedance elements having equivalent functions, wherein the impedance elements are resistances R1, R2, R3 connected in series between an input and an output terminals; and switching elements S1 which are switched under control of the frequency adjustment signal (filter controller's signal) so as to selectively operate the impedance elements, wherein the switching elements short or open terminals of the respective resistors (See fig. 2 and col. 5 lines 18-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the teachings of Saito & Ichihara in constructing variable band pass and low pass filters of the transceiver circuit as disclosed by Futamura & Gardenfors for the advantage of controlling the characteristics of the variable filters such as bandwidths, Q points or cut-off frequencies in order to enhance signal reception/transmission.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 08/31/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant argued that neither Futamura nor Gardenfors, taken singularly or in combination, teach or suggest the claimed features (See Remark, page 3-4). The Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant's argument. In this instant

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application, Futamura teaches every limitations recited in independent claim 1 except the controllable filter 79, which removes unnecessary frequency components from a transmitting signal, is a controllable low pass filter and the low pass filter is provided in a chip in which the band pass filter is provided. Gardenfors suggests a transceiver circuit (See fig. 4) comprising: a band pass filter 120 which extracts a desired frequency component from a receiving signal (the use of band pass filter for signal reception); and a low pass filter 124 which removes an unnecessary frequency component from a transmitting signal (the use of low pass filter for transmission), wherein the low pass filter is provided in a chip in which the band pass filter is provided (See fig. 4 and col. 1 lines 43-55, col. 6 lines 17-47). Therefore, by applying the Gardenfors's suggestion of using low pass filter for transmission, Futamura in view of Gardenfors would arrive to the claimed subject matters. For that reason, the rejections are proper and stand for all the pending claims.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A. Tran whose telephone number is (571)272-7858. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 10:00AM-6:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Quochien Young can be reached on (571)272-7902. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Tuan Tran

 11/14/05
QUOCHIEN B. VUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER